

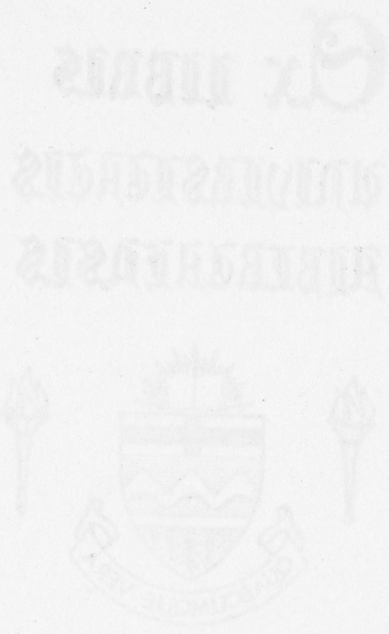
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARY



0 0002 7250 026

Ex LIBRIS
UNIVERSITATIS
ALBERTAENSIS





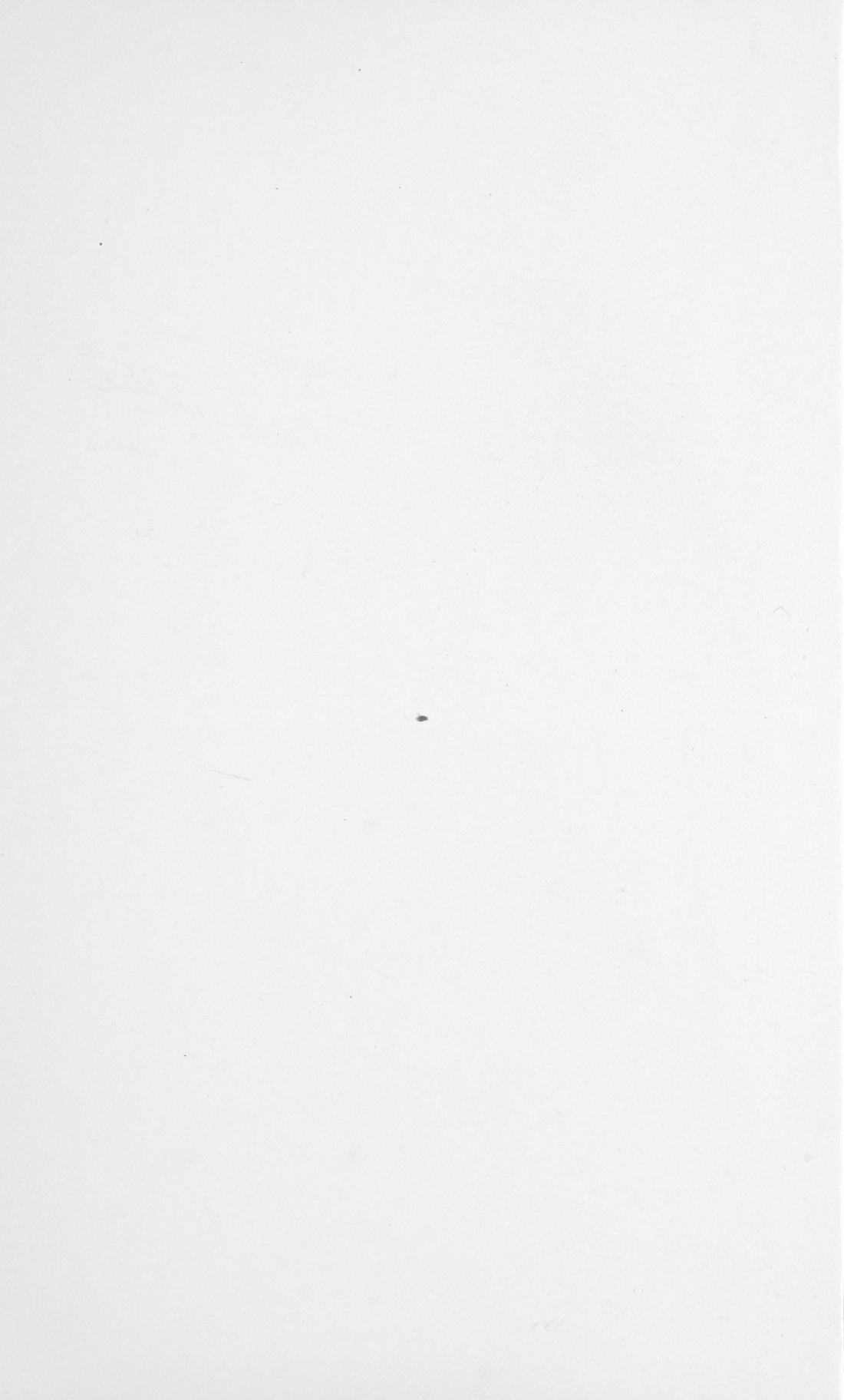
Rec'd: 15th 8.68

Order No.

Price

Acc. No. A B undus

Mc. R.



The Icelandic Canadian



FIFTH and SIXTH VOLUMES
1946 to 1948



A Quarterly Magazine
Published By The Icelandic Canadian Club
Winnipeg, Manitoba



"DETTIFOSS" IN ICELAND

Table of Contents

AUTUMN 1946	Page
Modern Educational Trends; Axel Vopnfjord.....	1
Education in Iceland; W. J. Lindal.....	4
Pioneer Mother, Short Story; Holmfridur Danielson.....	10
At Close of Day; St. G. St., Transl. by Jakobina Johnson.....	15
Autumn Rain; W. Kristjanson.....	16
Book Review, "Independent People"; J. Ragnar Johnson.....	17
Our War Effort; Mattie Halldorson.....	18
Personalities, Students and Events.....	30
Judge Gudmundur Grimson; Hjalmar A. Bergman.....	34
Frank Thorolfson; Holmfridur Danielson.....	38
WINTER 1946	
Christmas Memory; Holmfridur Danielson.....	1
A Home For Nordic Culture In The West; W. J. Lindal.....	2
The Memorial Day Service; W. J. Lindal.....	4
Handicrafts Of Iceland: Sofia Wathne.....	6
A Chair of Icelandic Language and Literature In The University of Manitoba: P. H. T. Thorlakson, M.D.....	12
Canadian Citizenship: G. Eliasson.....	14
Farm Boy Builds Organ.....	17
Our War Effort: Mattie Halldorson.....	19
Personalities, Students and Events.....	15, 31, 32, 55
Five Cents A Cup, Story: Caroline Gunnarsson.....	38
Icelandic Pioneers of 1874: Transl. by W. Kristjanson.....	40
SPRING 1947	
This Canada of Ours: Percy J. Philip.....	2
Spanning The Atlantic: W. J. Lindal.....	3
Canadian Citizenship: Axel Vopnfjord.....	6
Recollections From Pioneer Days in Winnipeg: Margaret Stephensen.....	8
The Outstretched Hand: Friðrik Hallgrímsson.....	13
If The Moonbeam, Poem: Transl. by Skuli Johnson.....	14
Iceland—Atlantis On The Artic Circle: Carl Schaefer.....	15
Canadian Citizenship: Jean Edmonds.....	18
Book Review, (Great Adventures and Explorations): H. D.....	19
A Canadian Archaeological Treasure: Marión Henderson.....	20
Our War Effort: Mattie Halldorson.....	24
They Shall Have Music, By Mrs. Paul E. Halldorson.....	34
Personalities, Students and Events.....	22, 37
SUMMER 1947	
Salute To Our Readers: Holmfridur Danielson.....	3
Historical Sketch of the Icelandic Settlement of Argyle: T. J. Oleson.....	5
Hobnobbing With Hobbies: Holmfridur Danielson.....	9
That Lovely Thing That Died, Poem: Asta Oddson.....	12
Homestead Experience: J. A. Vopni.....	13
Mrs. Kate B. Carter: H. D.....	17
Long Weary Years We Fought: E. J. Thorlakson.....	19
Hekla Erupts: Axel Vopnfjord.....	20
Our War Effort: Mattie Halldorson.....	22
Personalities, Students and Events.....	32

AUTUMN 1947

	Page
Editorial: T. J. Oleson	3
Early Historical Glimpses of Icelandic People in Winnipeg: Jon J. Bildfell	5
Glima, or the Icelandic Way of Wrestling: Thorsteinn Einarsson	9
Icelandic Folklore: Margaret L. Wandrey	12
Lundar Diamond Jubilee: Holmfridur Danielson	13
The Lundar Pioneers, Poem: Art Reykdal	16
Summer Camps: Caroline Gunnarsson	17
Norway Honors Snorri Sturluson: H. Thorgrimson	21
Our War Effort: Mattie Halldorson	23
John Sigurdson: Lillian Sumarlidason	32
Personalities, Students and Events	19, 31, 35

WINTER 1947

It's Christmas	3
Editorial: Axel Vopnfjord	4
Shoal Lake Sketches: W. Kristjanson	5
Winter's Night, Poem: Caroline Gunnarsson	10
The Eruption of Mount Hekla 1947: Steinþór Sigurðsson	11
Hobnobbing With Hobbies: Caroline Gunnarsson	16
Book Review, "Keeko": H. D.	20
Jon Olafson: H. Thorgrimson	21
Our War Effort: Mattie Halldorson	24
Personalities, Students and Events	23, 32

SPRING 1948

Editorial: T. J. O.	3
The Artist and The Man: Holmfridur Danielson	5
Boss Johnson, Premier of B. C.: Lillian Sumarlidason	10
Shoal Lake Sketches: W. Kristjanson	14
Awakening, Poem: Helen Swinburn	18
Sólskin: Lillian Sumarlidason	19
To Winnipeg's Icelandic Falcons: Svanhvit Josie	21
Miss Inga Johnson: Rev. R. Marteinson	22
Our War Effort: Mattie Halldorson	25
Members' Corner: Holmfridur Danielson	33
Icelandic Old Folks Homes in North America: Caroline Gunnarsson	39
Personalities and Events	13, 24, 37, 40, 43
Book Reviews, "Skilarétt": H. Th., and "Iceland and Greenland": Svanhvit Josie	42

SUMMER 1948

Editorial Comments: Dr. Watson Kirkconnell: H. D., Elinborg Lárusdóttir: W. J. L.	5
History in Icelandic Vocabulary: Dr. Watson Kirkconnell	9
And Then What?: Elinborg Láruslóttir	13
Hobnobbing With Hobbies: Caroline Gunnarsson	16
Manitoba Musical Festival: Ethel A. Kinley	20
Rev. R. Marteinson Honoured: H. Th.	24
Two Charming Visitors: Holmfridur Danielson	26
Our War Effort: Mattie Halldorson	27
Captain Mike of the "Radium Prince": R. B. Miller	37
Book Review: T. J. O.	39
Personalities, Students and Events	19, 22, 23, 28, 38, 40, 44, 46

The Icelandic Canadian

Vol. 5

Winnipeg, Man., Autumn 1946

No. 1

Modern Educational Trends

EDITORIAL

The beginning of another school year has focussed attention once more upon education; its methods, its value, and its efficacy. Educational trends are necessarily of vital concern to the thinking public, and a consideration of some of their aspects in the Icelandic Canadian is, perhaps, not entirely inappropriate, since the objectives of our magazine are essentially educational.

This is an age of realism in education. Society has become conscious of the fact that the school has its imperfections, its faults, and consequently its problems. It would be strange if such were not the case, since life itself is a series of problems. The shortcomings of all man-made institutions are the imperfections of the individuals who comprise the society from which they have sprung. No human institution can rise very far above the standard set by the community in which it has its being.

It would be unfortunate, indeed, if the school had no problems, for their absence would indicate not perfection, but satisfaction with mediocrity. The progress of mankind has been due to that "divine discontent" which drives man to ever greater heights of attainment. The spirit of progress is never absent, even if at times it is but a voice crying in the wilderness of human inertia and indifference.

During the Middle Ages the ruling classes took good care that no ray of enlightenment could pierce the dark clouds of ignorance of their underlings, for an educated peasantry would have meant the end of their privileges. The result was tyranny, oppression, unspeak-

able living conditions, and hopeless resignation among the masses. When the march of progress got under way, the fight of the masses for decent living conditions was coincident and synonymous with the fight for knowledge. During the nineteenth century when education, no longer a monopoly of the aristocracy, became the privilege of the masses, the world made greater progress than it had in many of the preceding centuries combined. The people of the nineteenth and the early twentieth century valued education highly, and were willing to make great sacrifices for its acquisition. It is human nature to appreciate results in proportion to the effort exerted in their attainment. Is it possible that education has now become too easily obtained?

As a result of economic development and social changes, the last sixty years have brought about a remarkable educational expansion. In 1880 the bulk of the population was rural. Schooling was then limited to the rudiments because of insufficient facilities and the necessity of withdrawing the children from school in order to supplement the family income. The gradual substitution of mechanical power for muscular effort rendered child labor less necessary. Furthermore, a marked increase in the productive power of the average adult has lessened the need for children in the industries, and has increased the ability to provide good schools. The gradual urbanization of the country has improved education facilities. Consequently, there has been a rapid increase in school attendance, chiefly at the higher levels.

This educational expansion is partly

LIBRARY
BOREAL INSTITUTE

the result of a changed social attitude towards children. The parents' attitude has changed. Formerly it was considered the duty of children to recompense their parents for their care. Now it is recognized that it is the parents' responsibility to give their children the best possible preparation for life. This changed attitude is partly the result of the realization that the increasing complexities of life have necessitated an increasingly broader training. Society, too, has begun to recognize its responsibility in the care of children. It has become, therefore, the duty of schools to provide proper conditions of life as well as intellectual training. Formerly the school expected the child to conform to the curriculum. Now it is endeavoring to make the curriculum conform to the child.

Gone is the "Little Red School House," where "reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic were taught to the tune of a hickory stick." Gone too is the barefoot, bashful boy, who shyly wrote sweet nothings on his slate for the edification of his "dream girl" in the seat behind. Time and distance create a halo of romance and enchantment which in many cases is, perhaps, illusory. The "Little Red School" had its drawbacks, and is wholly unsuited to modern conditions. No one mourns the passing of the "hickory stick" type of discipline. Some may, perhaps, have a lingering regret that a little of the diffidence of the barefoot, bashful boy is not a part of the make-up of the more sophisticated youngsters of today. It may be, too, that we have gone to the other extreme in the matter of discipline. There is a false psychology abroad which preaches that children's instincts and actions must not be suppressed. Man is not a pure individualist. He is a social being, and he must suppress many instincts and desires for the benefit of society. If in his youth he is not taught that certain actions are taboo, adjustments in later life become more difficult.

Until comparatively recent times the

curricula of the high schools have been constructed with a view to preparing the students for the university. Within the last two decades the attendance at the high schools has increased to such an extent that approximately half of the young people of high school age are attending the secondary schools. A large percentage of these will never go to the universities, and consequently require a different type of training, one that prepares them directly for life. Many universities have insisted, however, upon a college-preparatory course for students they admit. Educators insist that these requirements hamper them in developing their programme of instruction with full regard to the need of the students. These conflicting viewpoints constitute one of the problems which await a satisfactory solution.

The high school of today has acquired obligations which it did not have when it was a school for a small number of selected students. The majority of its students will terminate their education when they leave it; and it is, therefore, inexpedient to insist upon the same education for them as for those who will go to the university. Furthermore, the students and their parents are demanding courses which will be useful to them in their careers. The result of this demand has been the introduction of vocational courses into the high school curriculum.

The champions of the academic curriculum insist that manual skills may be of little use when the pupils enter the industries, because industrial operations are changing rapidly; whereas, they claim, a broad, cultural education is a permanent possession of the individual, and will be of greater value in solving the problems of life than the rudimentary knowledge of the manual skills that is given in the high schools. It is, nevertheless, becoming more and more apparent that the traditional high school courses are of little value to a considerable number of students, and that they require a different type of a

course. On the other hand, it is necessary to retain the cultural courses for those who can profit thereby. The problem of readjusting the curriculum to the foregoing conflicting views is in the process of solution.

The curricula of the universities have been expanding due to the rapid development of new bodies of knowledge and the demands of occupations formerly not regarded in the class of professions. The smaller colleges, seriously handicapped in the competition with the universities, have started a movement which may make them the centres of the more cultural type of education.

It can be gathered from the foregoing that modern education tends to place a greater emphasis upon the tangible, measurable, practical aspects of the learning process than upon the intangible, humanistic, cultural approach to education. This is understandable in view of the undue prominence that society is inclined to give to the materialistic as a yardstick of success; and then in a democratic state educational expansion and development are determined largely by popular demand.

But can we afford to neglect the spiritual development of our youth in this critical period of the world's history? It never has profited a man to win the whole world if he lost his soul in the process. This great truth needs more emphasis than ever before now when "the world" has gained so much in allure through the spectacular advances in science, and when the raising of the status of the masses has practically given to every capable youth

the keys to this materialistic world. Our own Icelandic forebears were ever long on things of the spirit as found in books of history, philosophy and poetry, even when they were woefully short on the bare necessities of life. We might profitably study their outlook on life.

In this rapidly "shrinking" world the need for an ever broadening concept of citizenship is urgent. We cannot afford to remain passive while the spirit of isolation, though driven underground, remains yet a potent force in our land, and expresses itself in so many varied forms in our dealings with each other and with other nations. We cannot continue with impunity our attitude of callousness and indifference towards the sufferings of our fellow beings in so many lands of our common world, while we enjoy—perhaps undeservedly—the benefits of an era of unparalleled prosperity. The adverse publicity received as a result may bring upon our heads the contempt, the hate, and ultimately, perhaps, the vengeance of the peoples of less favored lands. The world has become so "small" and so interdependent that education for good citizenship, not merely civic, provincial, and national, but also international, has ceased to be a "consummation devoutly to be wished." It has become a prerequisite for survival in this age of scientific destruction. Unless we can rededicate and revitalize our household gods, it may well be that we shall reap the whirlwind. We must reorientate our educational objectives towards this broader concept of citizenship. We must! But can we?

AXEL VOPNFJORD.

Education in Iceland

An address by W. J. LINDAL, delivered in April, 1946,
to the Icelandic Canadian Evening School.

PART I — THE FOUNDATION

The education of the people of Iceland does not, as in most other countries, depend entirely upon institutions of learning — public schools, intermediate schools, special schools and a university. In seeking an education, the Iclander draws upon three sources. They are the following:

1. The Nordic culture which means Icelandic culture.

2. Tradition: the home and the family, the custom of providing instruction in the home, the cultural atmosphere in the home.

3. The formal educational system.

The world has produced different cultures. We speak of those of the orient and those of the occident. Cultures or civilizations have come and gone such as those of Babylon and Egypt. In early Europe there were two distinct cultures, a north and a south, the dividing line being across Germany and Northern France. On the north were the Scandinavians and Teutons, including the Anglo-Saxons. On the south were the Greeks and the Romans. The culture of the north, called Nordic or Norse culture, in the course of centuries became so intermingled with that of the south as to blend with it into the modern European pattern. But in Iceland the ancient culture has been retained and carefully nurtured to this very day. G. T. Trial, in his book, "History of Education in Iceland," has succinctly but truly pointed this out:

"The education of Iceland of today is revolving about one main point: namely the characteristics of Icelandic culture which set it apart from the culture of other countries. The Nordic people's culture has come down to the Icelandic nation."

Icelandic Culture.

The Icelandic phrase for their culture is, "islenzk menning." It includes much more than the connotation, in the English language, of the word culture. It is a philosophy or a way of life and to an extent, perhaps greater than the people themselves realize, has been woven into the whole social fabric. In the evolution of the composing, the writing and the passing on by word of mouth, of the classical literature of Iceland, an ancient culture and a language were preserved and became the fountain head of the cultural life of the people. The Eddas and the Sagas are, if not the educators, the character builders of the nation.

The emphasis placed upon this culture is apparent. Professor Sigurdur Nordal, the leading educationist of Iceland, has written a large book which is only Volume I. of "Islenzk Menning." He says that the late Benedikt Gröndal, the younger, spent decades in writing a history of Norse culture but did not live to finish it. Authors quite frequently refer to and discuss "Alþýðumenning" — the culture of the common people. In 1939 a three hundred page history was written on the enlightenment of the common people — *Saga Alþýðufræðslunnar*.

Instruction in the Home.

This culture of the common people is based not only upon the classic literature but also upon a tradition which is as ancient as the people themselves. This is the second factor in the educational process in Iceland.

From ancient times the Icelandic people have always showed a penchant for knowledge and enlightenment. They may have brought it with them to the island — a part of the urge, so strong in the viking of old, to reach out from

the known to the unknown. Or it may have been a spontaneous growth during the period of the Golden Age of Icelandic literature. Which came first, the literature or the general thirst for knowledge, need not be discussed. But of one thing the historians are positive: the result was enlightenment more general and on a higher plane than in most other countries at that time. Both reading and writing were quite common.

Then followed the centuries of darkness and despair. During that long sad period, extending over five centuries, this trait of the people was put under a very heavy strain, but it could not be destroyed. The limitless source of inspiration and hope in the Sagas; a classic language so rich in form and expression: the adversities of the elements, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and ice-flows; the cruelties of foreign oppression in the trade monopolies — it all combined in developing a philosophy of life and of enlightenment which found expression in a truly home-made system of acquiring knowledge and moulding character.

Let us take a glimpse at the pattern of life in the average rural home during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It was in this period that conditions of abject poverty, misery and wretchedness reached their lowest point.

The cultural life of the community centred around the home. Indeed it centred in the *baðstofa*, the bed-sitting room, where all gathered in the evenings and sagas were read and poetry recited. Children received instruction when they were still very young. In a very exhaustive analysis of national customs in Iceland, "Íslenzkir þjóðhættir" Jónas Jónason makes this statement:

"As soon as the children were able to talk fairly well, they were taught the sign of the cross, the Lord's prayer and the beatitudes. Then they were taught some verses and prayers, even before they could understand one word of what they learned. In the twilight of the evenings the mothers and foster-mothers knitted and span; they gathered the

children around them and had them repeat verses and prayers; to this the ministers added as to them seemed fit, either by visiting the homes or in the churches."

Thus was laid down the foundation for instruction in the home which was carried on from youth to manhood and even to old age. This did not mean that everyone was able to read and write, though literacy was general, but it did lead to profuse memorizing of hymns and poetry by all and to a general knowledge of the sagas.

Facilities for learning to write were meagre. Sometimes books were not available and alphabets were borrowed from the ministers and copied. Thus a writing was developed called "prentletur" — a rough copying of the printed letters. Some of the men who learned to write in this way, in later life became fancy writers, "listaskrifarar." Old men are still to be found who prefer to write that way.

The shortage of paper was pathetic. In some districts soft rocks could be found in the mountains. Children learned to write by scratching the rocks which would then be polished and used again. Jónasson refers to the poet, Sigvaldi Jónasson who became a beautiful writer. He learned to write by copying letters on the smooth surface of the jaw bone of a horse.

Real ink was hard to get and a substitute was made by mixing black dye with the juice from boiled bearberries (sortulyng); sometimes soot was used and even calf's blood.

As a typical example of instruction in the home in those days one need but quote the words of Professor Konráð Gíslason. He was born in 1808, became one of the editors of *Fjölirnir*, and thus took a leading part in the national awakening in the first half of the nineteenth century. He says:

"My first teacher was my dearly beloved and godfearing mother. As my father did not have time she taught me and my eight brothers and sisters, yet

at the same time attended to all the household duties because my parents were poor. The instruction was of this character: she taught me to read and write, trained me in reading the Bible and explained the children's reader for me and made me memorize it, which took four weeks. She also gave me a short outline of the history of the world."

As a result of this instruction in the home there was at the end of the "black and terrible" seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, hardly any illiteracy in Iceland and most people could read and write. A comprehensive survey of literacy during the years 1780—90 was made by Hallgrímur Hallgrímsson M.A. A few examples give the general picture. One large parish in Þingeyjarsýslu, only 7 could not read; Saurbæ parish, all could read; Reykjavík and vicinity, 700 members, 40 could not read; Setberg and Krossanes, the worst record, 600 members, 70 could not read.

But not only was literacy maintained, but an influence from the outside was scornfully rejected. The dire plight of the people was undermining their faith in cultural values which had been cherished and nurtured for centuries. In 1771 a rehabilitation memorial was prepared and forwarded to a National Commission of inquiry. One of the contributors to that document was Bjarni Jónsson, the rector at Skálholt. The argument he advances shows very clearly the influences at work. The rejection of his plea shows with equal clearness the stoutness of heart of the nation. He in part says:

"I regard it not only useless but very harmful that the Icelandic language be retained. When the Icelanders spoke the same language as the other nations of the other Scandinavian countries they were esteemed everywhere and held in high repute. But at the present time, when others cannot understand their language and they are looked down upon and their reputation is in many ways a handicap to them in their dealings with other nations, why should we cling so tenaciously to the language.

Let us follow the example set by the people of Norway and the Faroe Islands, let us adopt the Danish language, now that we are under Danish rule and in matters of trade and commerce are associated with the people of Denmark."

The Renaissance.

In 1812 there were no elementary schools operating in Iceland. But this was the period of the boyhood days of most of the men of letters who, towards the middle of the nineteenth century, ushered in the new Golden Age of Icelandic literature. It was more than a revival of learning; it was the re-birth of a whole nation — something truly remarkable at a time when facilities for enlightenment through the usual channels, outside the home, were so meagre and economic conditions throughout the land still so desperate. Within a period of forty years (1780 — 1820) the following leaders in thought and action were born: Bjarni Þórarinsson, Baldvin Einarsson, Jónas Hallgrímsson, Konráð Gíslason, Tómas Sæmundson, Jón Sigurðson, Brynjólfur Pétursson. (Saga Alþýðufræðslunnar. p. 19.)

PART II — THE SUPERSTRUCTURE.

I now come to the present day national school system which commenced with the passing of the Education Act in 1907. It is a complete system of formal education, just as comprehensive and up to date as that of any nation in the world.

Lest it be thought that schools did not exist prior to 1907, I must briefly refer to some of them. In 1056 Bishop Ísleifur Gissurarson founded a school at Skálholt and in 1107 Bishop Jón Ögmundsson founded another at Hólar. These schools operated intermittently until 1801, when they were moved to Reykjavík. The building that housed them was unfit for use and it closed in 1804. The following year a grammar school, "latínu skóli", was founded at Bessastaðir. In 1840 it was moved to Reykjavík.

A few elementary schools were organized in the eighteenth century but, is already stated, by 1812 none of them were operating. In the latter part of the nineteenth century elementary schools were established in different parts of the island.

At the present time there are at least 25 different kinds of schools or educational institutions in Iceland. They are all supported to a greater or lesser extent by the state. In Iceland there are no schools such as our business colleges, operating for profit as a free enterprise. The Public School Act does, however, make provision for private schools "einkaskólar". There are, I believe, only two such schools in Iceland, both Catholic.

The Elementary Schools.

These schools are under the Public Schools Act of 1936. Attendance is compulsory from the ages of 7 to 14. The minimum for children from 7 - 9 is 33 weeks and from 10 - 14, 24 weeks a year. In rural areas children below 10 may be exempted, but in such cases the homes are held responsible for instruction the first years. Any child anywhere may obtain exemption if adequate instruction is provided in the home.

The subjects taught are as follows: Icelandic, writing, arithmetic, religious instruction, natural history, geography, history, drawing, music, athletics. There is a special subject in the first three years, "átthagafræðsla," which may be translated as "observation." Children are encouraged to make mental notes of everything they see and hear — an excellent groundwork for self-education. There are no examinations in this subject.

There are boarding schools, but in such cases the compulsory attendance is only from 12 to 14 weeks.

Then there are the travelling schools — farskólar. The teachers move from place to place to meet demands where there are no schools. The need for itinerant teachers is becoming less and less

and may in time disappear altogether.

No foreign language may be taught except to children who can read and write Icelandic well and have a good knowledge of the grammar. If a child requires special tuition the parents are liable for the extra cost. In Reykjavík the parents are responsible for damage done by their children to school property.

The Grammar Schools.

These are preparatory schools with an academic standing similar to European Gymnasias and Lyceums and some American colleges. There are two Grammar Schools, one in Reykjavík and one in Akureyri. The one in Reykjavík was called the Latin school until in 1909 when the name was changed to "menntaskólinn".

The complete course is 6 years and roughly corresponds to grades 9 to 11 in High School and first and second year at the University.

There is a junior division (2 years) where the following subjects are taught: Icelandic, Danish, English, arithmetic, history, natural history, geography, physics, drawing, gymnastics.

The senior division covers four years. In the first senior year all students take the same subjects which, with the exception of arithmetic and geography, are the same as in the junior years, but with the following added: German religion, mathematics, book-keeping and music. In the last three years students specialize either in languages — Icelandic, Danish, English, German, French Latin or in mathematics, "stærðfræði" which latter includes physics and chemistry. Throughout the senior division Icelandic and gymnastics are compulsory.

The University of Iceland.

The University of Iceland was founded by an Act of Parliament (Alþingi) on June 17., 1911, one hundred years to a day after the birth of Jón Sigurðsson. The qualification for admission is gradua-

tion from grammar school or an equivalent standing.

At present there are four departments. (1) Theology. In Iceland there is a state church. (2) Medicine, in all its branches including eye, ear and nose, dentistry and public health. (3) Philosophy. A better word would be The Humanities, or Liberal Arts, as in addition to philosophy the following languages are taught: Icelandic, English, French, Latin and German; others may have been added recently. The main emphasis is placed upon "studies Icelandic", (islenzk fræði). These include not only the language and literature, ancient and modern, but also the history and in particular the cultural history (menningarsaga) of the Icelandic people. (4) Law and Economics. The usual subjects, but book-keeping, auditing and typing are included in the law branch.

There are two terms each year, fall and spring. — September 15., to January 31st., and February 1st., to June 15.

Gymnastics and swimming are compulsory the first four terms.

Examinations are both oral and written and students can submit to examinations whenever they are ready, subject however, to time limitations being fixed in each department.

Other Schools.

Space permits only a passing reference to the other schools.

4. Agricultural schools, two in number, one at Reykjavík and one at Akureyri.

5. Navigation School. There are three courses and the students go to sea between courses.

6. Engineers School, with special emphasis on marine engines.

7. Technical Schools. Thirty-five trades are covered. Provision is made for apprenticeship agreements between masters of a trade and apprentices. If the master does not show sufficient interest and for that reason the student fails, the master must pay him damages. Many apprentices attend Technical School at nights.

8. The Commercial School. Complete course in six years: preparatory one year, main course four years, post graduate, one year.

9. Household School. First attempted in 1828. Present school is in Reykjavík but others may be established elsewhere.

10. Horticultural School, erected near a hot spring. A two year course.

11. Handicraft and Art School. Four sections: teachers, arts, crippled children, evening classes.

There are three Normal Schools, each of a different type.

12. Teachers Training School, first attempted in 1892.

13. Training School for teachers in Household Schools.

14. Training School for teachers in sports and gymnastics.

15. Practical High Schools. Five in number, provision made for four others which may be operating now. The instruction is similar to that in the junior division of the grammar schools, but more practical.

16. District Schools. Nine in number: studies are flexible and of practical nature.

17. Practical Junior High Schools in districts where there are no secondary school buildings.

18. Group Education. This is similar to adult education groups in other countries. Purpose is primarily to teach members of groups how to educate themselves, but also to supply essential basic instruction.

19. Music School — instruments only as yet, no voice training.

20. Co-operative Society Commercial School. The purpose of the school is to educate people in the co-operative movement and train them to handle business on the co-operative basis.

21. School for training in nursing and midwifery.

22. Druggist's School.

23. School for instruction in radio, wireless etc.

24. Schools for the deaf, dumb and the blind.

25. Compulsory training in citizen duties.

I have left this subject to the last, partly because it has, as yet, not been put into practice and partly because this may be the beginning of a new and important type of training. In Iceland it is called "lýðskólahald."

If, in a plebiscite held for the purpose, two-thirds of those entitled to vote are in favor, a town or district council may pass a by-law providing that all young men and women 18 years of age and able to do manual labor shall, for a period of seven weeks in the spring, without pay, perform manual labor for the town or district. There are certain exceptions which need not be detailed.

This service, called "þegnskylda", may be compared with compulsory military training in other countries except that the purpose is not military. The purpose is citizen-building.

Two Special Features.

In the programme of studies in public schools and higher places of learning in Iceland there are two distinguishing features. They are Icelandic and gymnastics.

Some phase of the study of Icelandic language, literature and cultural development, is compulsory in all the schools enumerated except the school of music and the school for nurses. For instance, Icelandic is compulsory in the Engineers School, the Horticultural School and the Co-operative School. In the philosophy course at the University the main stress is on Icelandic studies.

I have already mentioned that physical culture and sports are compulsory in the elementary schools, the grammar schools and during the first four terms at the University. Swimming is comp-

ulsory in the elementary schools in all towns where swimming pools are available.

The Alma Mater.

Such is the present threefold educational process in Iceland. There can be no doubt that the Nordic culture, as embodied in the Eddas and the Sagas, and home instruction, so ancient and so deep-rooted, have played and still play an important role in the education of the people of Iceland. One must agree with Mr. Trial who says that in the development of the majority of well-bred Icelanders the school has taken only a small part. It may be that this will change in the future. But, it must be remembered, formal instruction in modern schools of learning has not for its aim the elimination of that which is traditional and historic; it rather seeks to build and enlarge upon it. In this way a unique and yet a meritorious system of education has evolved.

It is obvious that in such a system there are no great schools with a historic record. No one in Iceland can proudly say that he attended an Oxford or is a graduate of a Harvard. No one wears a tie because he went to school at an Eton or a Harrow. When we point to an educated man of Iceland we cannot refer to a background of that type. But what we can say about him is this: he is steeped in the Eddas and the Sagas; at home in a rich modern literature; master of a language, classic in form, but living and vibrating in expression; the guardian of an ancient culture, bequeathed to him in his island home — all of which combines to create within him a sense of individual worth and responsibility, a pride of birth and heritage. That is the school of which he is a graduate. He loves his Alma Mater.

A Story From New Iceland

Pioneer Mother

By HOLMFRIDUR DANIELSON

The year had stretched its weary way far into the fall of 1906. Bereft of all its summer beauty, the virgin forest of New Iceland lifted its naked arms as if in supplication to a leaden sky. Was it perhaps in answer to its prayer that the first autumn snow was falling softly on the earth's withered bosom? It caressed gently the bare branches; it kissed with compassion a forlorn, shrivelled leaf still clinging in desperation to a lifeless limb; it settled on hill and hummock and, with a few sorrowful swirls, laid its lovely mantle on the two-months old grave of Einar Olafsson, which was the first landmark left by the pioneers of this new Icelandic settlement called Ardal.

It was as if the autumn peace and the pure driven snow joined hands to gather up and enfold in their bosom the withered hopes of summer hidden in the hearts of humanity's children.

But peace and quiet found no place in the breast of Astrid, Einar's young widow. Her heart was a surging sea of anxiety, grief and despair. But anxiety was uppermost, for it was the future that threatened her, grim and uncertain, — the future of her five fatherless children, and added to this was the chilling thought that should she herself survive the menacing winter now approaching, another little one would be added to her orphaned flock.

But now there was no time for bitter brooding. And the staunch Icelandic women who wrenched themselves away from kith and kin to carve out a fuller future for their children in an unknown land, did not allow themselves the luxury of self-pity. For Astrid there was only time to work, watch and pray. For yet another calamity had crashed into her little world: the children were all sick with the measles. During those first

pioneer years measles proved to be a dangerous disease which took a heavy death toll of adults as well as children.

As was the custom among the New Iceland settlers, Astrid's neighbors were quick to offer aid and comfort as far as in their power lay. They dragged home fire-wood from the bush and sawed enough for her to keep the two stoves going. From the nearest store, ten miles distant, they brought such meagre provisions as she could afford, and added perhaps a small portion from their own slender larder. But she herself had to look after her two cows, for no one dared to enter the barn, and much less to come near the house, for fear of the dread disease.

Kristin, the oldest child, a girl of seven, had been the first to succumb to the sickness, and was now beginning to totter around pale and listless, trying to care for the other little patients. She could give them a drink, cover them up, pat and comfort them, and put a stick on the fire when mamma was outside. Little Rannveig, six years old, had at first helped her mother with all her childish might. She had done many small duties, and had patiently rocked, and crooned to little sister who cried and whimpered all the time. But now she lay tossing in a high fever and little hope was held for her recovery. A "homeopath" who was visiting the sick in the neighborhood had been asked to look in on Astrid, if perchance he could prescribe something to relieve the stricken child. The quack doctor laid his hand on Rannveig's fevered brow, looked at her tongue, counted the rapid pulse beats and with an air befitting his official position, spoke solemnly, "I'm, an acute case of brain fever. It will likely reach its climax in three days. I fear that —"

here he broke off abruptly as he caught the look of stark despair in the mother's eyes. He gave a few confused instructions, mumbled a greeting and left hastily.

It was now towards evening of the third day. The children were quiet in the inner room, and some of them asleep. All day Rannveig had tossed and moaned in a pitiful delirium, she was asleep now, and her breathing came in short, shallow gasps. Astrid paced the floor in the front room. She paused by the window and gazed with sleep-laden eyes into the dusk-covered curtain of snow; she took a few steps, held her breath and listened at the bed-room door; she added wood to the fire in the cook stove and in the box stove also; she sat down in the rocker, her chin in her hands and whispered a few disjointed words of prayer; she sprang to her feet, snatched up a stick to put on the fire, . . . but the stove was full, too full . . . time went slowly.

There came a gentle tapping at the door. Astrid opened it. Outside stood Sigrun Egilsdottir, her nearest neighbor and her kinswoman. But she did not stand at the door, she had moved several steps to the side after knocking. Astrid threw a shawl over her shoulders and went out to speak to Sigrun. Darkness was falling. The short sawed-off tree stumps in front of the "shanty" in the small clearing, had donned jaunty white caps and stood erect and proud as chess men on a square. And a white cloak of tranquility enwrapped the earth. There they stood face to face, those two pioneer mothers and widows: Astrid, young, delicately built, sensitive and inexperienced; Sigrun, strong, stern, courageous, her mind and body long steeled in the hard school of life. She had been for many years a widow, had homesteaded in this new settlement, and with unflinching endurance and the aid of her three children now full-grown she was making a success of her farming venture.

There they stood! Surely, compared

to the tree stumps, they were as queens surrounded by pawns, yet were they not mere pawns on the chess board of fate?

Sigrun asked about the children, and enquired about Astrid's provisions. "And little Rannveig," she said, "is she no better?"

"God knows; She is sleeping, and this is the third day." Astrid spoke calmly, but she could feel her self-control slipping. Was it then in the end a few words of sympathy and the presence of a friend that would snap the last knotted cord of her taut nerves? Sigrun was loth to leave Astrid in her hour of anguish. The air was heavy with apprehension but conversation was difficult and disjointed. At length, with a sorrowful gesture of resignation, Sigrun brushed the tall white cap off a tree stump and laid there a two-dollar bill, spoke a few words of encouragement and prayer, wiped away a tear, and turned homeward, her tread unusually slow and heavy.

One gasping sob escaped Astrid as she whirled wildly and stumbled into the house. She flung herself on the sofa, her whole body trembling with suppressed sobs.

Astrid was by nature a blithesome and light-hearted creature and could meet the trials of life with fortitude and buoyant spirits. But since she, the youngest daughter of loving parents left home, the furious breakers of life's merciless sea had beat over her so relentlessly that her delicate nerves were bruised and torn.

To begin with there was the journey from Iceland with three small children; seasickness, filth, hunger, combined with the fear of being murdered by enraged Middle-European peasants who rioted because there was not enough food, . . . the greedy steamship company had taken on twice as many passengers as was lawful. In the midst of this misery and chaos Einar and Astrid hugged close to them the three little ones who were all desperately ill. And something intangible and precious escaped their spirits and was lowered over the ship's side

with little Olafur, their first-born, as he was laid in his watery grave.

Then came a nerve wracking interlude in North Dakota when Einar was away earning the wherewithal to feed his family, and Astrid was alone with the babies. Swarms of mosquitos poisoned the flesh, so there could be no rest or well-being for any of them. Tramps and hoboos invaded her home, demanding food and lodging in a language she did not understand. She only knew that they meant some harm to her and the children. On the first of these occasions when three ferocious looking tramps pushed by her into the house and menaced her with rough language and gesticulations, she fled in terror to a neighbor, dropping the children through a back window and leaving the unwelcome guests in possession of her home. That summer was one of frequent and unusually severe thunder storms. Cattle were struck dead and buildings destroyed by lighting. For the young woman from Iceland where thunder is not known, the play of fire in the heavens was an awesome yet magnificent sight, but the loud crashes of thunder were terrifying beyond compare; it was as if all the storied giants of her childhood imagery had gone berserk and in their fury were grinding the universe to dust; surely doomsday was at hand!

After that there was the difficult trip to New Iceland. Alone, unable to speak the language of the country she travelled by train to Winnipeg, with four children; thence on a boat to Hnausa, on Lake Winnipeg and the last lap, ten miles west to Ardal, by horse-drawn sleigh on a cold dreary November day. Einar came on foot all the way from North Dakota and herded his cattle, these few animals that made up all the riches they had acquired in this new land.

And now at last the loss of her beloved companion, sickness, destitution and utter despair! The waves rolled over her shutting out the last faint glow

of God's mercy. And the last smouldering ember of her own courage and initiative? Was it too flickering to a final death in her greatest hour of need? A black mist arose before her eyes, an ominous roar pressed in upon her ears and she sank into oblivion.

"Do not weep so, my Astrid", Oh, she was at home again in Iceland! It was her own mother Rannveig speaking, entreating her with the same gentle persuasion, firmness and faith that always had adorned her personality and set her apart as a staunch and trusted guardian angel of those in trouble. "Do not weep, dear; a true daughter of the Vikings does not abandon the oars, when the cross-currents grow strong and dangerous. Each trial tackled bravely, serves to develop the strength and endurance of nations and individuals. And forget not, Astrid, what it is that has given us Icelanders the courage and determination to conquer in the battle of life; it is our unfailing trust in God and His loving care which never deserts us even in the darkest hour."

"Mamma, mamma, I'm so thirsty". Astrid sprang up startled and instinctively turned to escape from the cold dim corridor. But she recollected herself at once; she was not in the long dark corridor leading to the "baðstofa" of her childhood home in "Lækjardal". It was little Rannveig who was calling, and the house was quite dark and cold.

She lit the lamp and hurried in to the children. "How are you, my darling?"

"O mamma, I feel much better, but I'm so tired". One look at Rannveig's face convinced Astrid that a remarkable change had taken place. She felt her brow, counted her pulse. The fever was down,—she had passed the danger. The light shed a gentle glow over the group of children. "Yes, they are surely going to recover, all of them, God be praised!" Astrid herself felt singularly refreshed after her brief, much-needed sleep. She beamed on her little brood and said cheerfully:

"Yes, now I shall heat up some nice soup and you must eat it all, my darlings, so that you will be big and strong and mamma will be proud of you." — Astrid started building up the fires, and, with tears of thankfulness welling in

her throat, she hummed softly under her breath:

"I weep away the pain and fears
And heavenly lights I see.
For God will count my trembling tears,
My faith shall comfort me."

Iceland's Thousand Years

The second edition of "Iceland's Thousand Years" is now on the market. It is a beautifully bound book, printed on finest quality book paper with gold leaf lettering on the front cover and back margin. It will make a most acceptable Christmas gift for all those who are interested in their own background as well as others who care to know history and world culture in general. It is a very readable book, comprising the 13 lectures given the first year at the Icelandic Canadian Evening School, on the history and literature of Iceland. The Legation of Iceland, Washington bought five hundred

copies of the first edition for the purpose of distributing them among those who are asking for material on this subject. There are still a few copies left of that edition, selling at \$1.50 per copy. The bound edition sells at \$2.50 per copy. There is a 25% reduction in price if three or more copies are ordered by the same person. This applies equally to both editions. The book is postpaid and on request, gift orders will be sent direct, with suitable gift cards enclosed. Order from: Mrs. H. F. Danielson, 869 Garfield St., Winnipeg, Canada.

A Fine Tribute

One evening this summer I was half consciously listening to the radio. — Johnny Buss, sports writer for twenty-three years, who is on the Winnipeg Tribune staff, was being interviewed by Bill Good of CKY. I was listening with keen interest as they discussed famous stars, past and present, in the field of various sports.

Said Bill Good, "who would you say was the best hockey player of all time?" After giving credit to many top-ranking

stars, including Conacher, Johnny Buss said, sort of tenderly, "But Frank Frederickson was the greatest of them all."

Later they were conning over the events at the championship curling which took place in Saskatoon earlier in the spring, and Johnny Buss praised the winner Billy Rose, and then added: "but somehow from the first I was sold on the Leo Johnson rink from Winnipeg."

I hope our readers will enjoy this information.—H. D.

The Icelandic Canadian

EDITORIAL BOARD: Judge W. J. Lindal, Chairman, 788 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg, Man.; Gissur Eliasson, Secretary, 890 Dominion St.; Holmfridur Danielson, Editorial Secretary, 869 Garfield St.; Capt. H. F. Skaptason, 965 Ingersoll St.; Axel Vopnfjord, 1267 Dominion St.

NEWS EDITOR: Stefania Eydal, 745 Alverstone St.

OUR WAR EFFORT: Mattie Halldorson, 558 Arlington St.

BUSINESS MANAGER: Grace Thorsteinson, 301 Great West Permanent Bldg.

CIRCULATION MANAGER: Hjalmur F. Danielson, 869 Garfield St.

Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

Við verkalok

Eftir STEPHAN G. STEPHANSSON

Er sólskins hlíðar sveipast aftanskugga
um sumarkvöld,
og máninn hengir hátt í greinar trjáanna
sinn hálf skjöld.
Er kveldkul andsvalt aftur kæla tekur
mitt enni sveitt,
og eftir dagsverk friðnum nætur fagnar
hvert fjörmagn þreytt.

Er út' á grundum hringja bjöllur hjarða
nú hljótt, svo glöggt,
og kveld-ljóð fugls í skógunum einstakt ómar
og angur-klökkt,
og golan virðist tæpa á hálfri hending
er hæst 'ún hvín,
og hlátur barna er leika sér við lækinn,
berst ljúft til mín.

En eins og tunglskins blettir akrar blikja
við blárri grund,
og ljósgrá móða leitin bakkafyllir
og lægð og sund,
og neðst í austri gyltar stjörnur glitra
í gegnum skóg;
þá sit eg úti undir húsa-gafli
í aftan-ró.

Því hjarta mitt er fult af hvíld og fögnuð',
af frið' mín sál.
þá finnst mér aðeins yndi, blíða, fegurð
sé alheims mál.
Að allir hlutir biðji bænum mínum
og blessi mig.
Við nætur gæzku-hjartað jörð og himinn
að hvíli sig.

En þegar hinzt er allur dagur úti
og uppgerð skil,
og hvað sem kaupíð veröld kann að virða
sem vann eg til,
í slíkri ró eg kysi mér að kveða
eins klökkvan brag,
og rétta heimi að síðstu sáttar-hendi
um sólarlag.

At Close of Day

By STEPHAN G. STEPHANSSON

Translated by JAKOBINA JOHNSON

When sunny hills are draped in velvet shadows,
 By Summer Night—
And Lady Moon hangs out among the tree tops
 Her crescent bright;
And when the welcome evening breeze is cooling
 My fevered brow—
And all who toil, rejoice that blessed night time
 Approaches now;—

When out among the herds the bells are tingling,
 Now clear, now faint—
And in the woods a lonely bird is voicing
 His evening plaint;
And when the breeze with drowsy accent whispers
 Its melody—
And from the brook the joyous cries of children
 Are borne to me;—

When fields of grain have caught a gleam of moonlight
 But dark the ground;—
A pearl-gray mist has filled to overflowing
 The dells around;
Some golden stars are peeping forth to brighten
 The eastern wood;—
Then I am resting out upon my doorstep,
 In nature's mood.

My heart reflects the rest and sweet rejoicing
 Around, above;
And beauty is the universal language
 And peace and love;
And all things seem to join in benediction
 And prayers for me;
And at Night's loving heart, both earth and heaven
 At rest I see.

And when the last of all my days is over;—
 The last page turned;
And what-so-ever shall be deemed in wages
 That I have earned;—
In such a mood I hope to be composing
 My sweetest lay;
And then,—extend my hand to all the world
 And pass away.

Autumn Rain

W. KRISTJANSON

Autumn rain, essence of gloom and depression. Today it is pleasant to lounge indoors in cosy warmth, and to listen to your pelting downpour on the roof above. When I look through the darkened windows, and see you swept and lashed about by your twin being, Autumn Wind, whose stormy temper has overcome all sense of tender relationship, it is with an exquisite feeling of content that I turn from the sombre view outside to snuggle down into the old arm-chair, book in hand, and prepare to sojourn at leisure with the author 'neath sunny Italian skies.

But, Autumn Rain, time was when in a far-off land, and with a different feeling. I heard your cataract fall on the roof, and saw you beat against the darkened window panes. It was then that with a feeling of relief I stood up in its rack the well-cleaned rifle and spread my blankets on the low-set trestle bed.

The last bugle call has been "No parade today"; just now the regimental is heard again. This time it is followed by: "Come get your letters from Lizzie, come get your letters from Lou." Then it seems to wind up with the magic words: "Canadian mail today—ee." Nor does our feeling play us false. There are letters from Port Arthur, Winnipeg, Regina, Moose Jaw and Calgary.

When the last tiny scrap of information given in these letters has been treasured away, friends that from the time of enlistment have managed to march side by side, and bunk together, exchange notes and talk about the folk at home, lingering over old-time happenings; yearning memories.

Then, Autumn Rain, soon comes the day when there is to be no roof to break your force, and bedraggled, miserable human beings struggle against your violence through French Sloughs of

Despond; or you sweep down on the forlorn wretch huddled under the edge of sap or shell hole, dully watching—half seeing, half sensing—you churn the surface of its slushy contents, wondering how many years will drag by before a hint of sullen grey in the east will warn the opposing armies to draw in exposed front-line men and outposts.

Do your worst, Wind and Rain. Tomorrow night man-made thunder and lightning will play havoc in a fashion undreamed of by you, mere natural forces that you are. At zero hour some poor devil of a Frenchman clinging to the ruins of his home will wake up to see, through what used to be the window, a fitful flash and glow on the eastern horizon. Perhaps he will turn right over and go to sleep again; perhaps he will first think of the hell-fire of which this fitful flash and glow is faint surface play, and then he may ask Mon Dieu to bless the Canadian boys, struggling through gaps in barbed wire entanglements, slipping and sliding along the inside rims of huge craters—earth, air and human beings lashed and torn by the concentrated fury of the straffing Hun artillery, Verey lights shooting up to betray to view prospective victims of machine-gun, bomb, and rifle—leaping down into spacious enemy trenches, and with gripped rifle and bayonet making dashes for shadowy grey figures. . . . Do your worst, Wind and Rain, bluster and storm as you will, you shall be compelled to acknowledge your comparative impotency.

Ah! Today it is pleasant, Autumn Rain, to lounge indoors and listen to your pelting downpour on the roof above, and then to turn from the darkened window panes to snuggle down into the old arm-chair, book in hand, and prepare to sojourn at leisure with the author 'neath sunny Italian skies.

Book Review

INDEPENDENT PEOPLE by Halldór Laxness. Translated from the Icelandic by J. A. Thompson. Pp. 470. Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1946. \$3.00.

An Icelandic contribution has been added to the notable succession of modern Scandinavian epics, taking its just place with Knut Hamsun's **Growth of the Soil**, Sigrid Undset's **Kristin Lavransdatter** and Johannes V. Jensen's **The Long Journey**. The general theme is not unlike that of its predecessors except of course the locale is Iceland and not Sweden or Norway.

Bjartur of Summerhouses, a crofter or **bóndi**, after eighteen years of assiduous labour, acquires a few acres of sheep land and then spends the rest of his life in an even greater struggle to maintain his meagre holdings.

It is the story of incredible difficulties in wresting a living from the reluctant Arctic soil, the struggle of man against the world. Bjartur's world war is the struggle of a man against the combined operations of the forces of nature and the tyranny of mankind. The meaning

and significance is not local but universal. He fights on valiantly as his goal is independence, this being to him the most important thing in life.

It is a grim story which may leave people who know little or nothing about Iceland with the impression that its people live in squalor and misery. Even one who has twice visited Iceland has the feeling that he has perhaps overlooked the true ruggedness of sheep ranching in the far north.

The literary excellence of the book is superb, the style lucid and the descriptive narrative of a rich and beautiful quality.

The author who was born in Reykjavik is well known to Icelandic Canadians, having visited this country. It is not altogether impossible that he may be awarded the much coveted Nobel prize. It will not be for this book as it was written some ten years ago and has just recently been translated, but he is only 44 years of age and his writings have already attracted international attention.

J. Ragnar Johnson

—Toronto.

News Items

Prof. Tryggvi Oleson has been appointed to the staff of the History Department of United College, Winnipeg. Prof. Oleson who comes to Winnipeg from Vancouver, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Oleson, Glenboro, Man.

★

Two prominent members of the Winnipeg teaching staff, the brothers, Ingolfur Gilbert Arnason and Terry Angantyr Arnason have received important promotions. Gilbert, who has been on

the staff for twenty-one years, becomes the supervising principal of the Mulvey Junior High School; Terry, who has been on the staff for eighteen years, becomes the principal of the Ralph Brown School.

Geysers are found only in the United States, Iceland and New Zealand.

★

El Azhar is the oldest university in the world, and was founded in 972 A.D.

OUR WAR EFFORT

★

PTE. OSCAR GOODMAN

Born in Iceland Aug. 26, 1919. Enlisted in the Winnipeg Grenadiers July 20, 1941. He went to Hong Kong Oct. 25, 1941. Early in January 1943 his parents received word that he was missing. In July 1945 they were notified that he had been killed in action Dec. 21, 1941.

★



Pte. Oscar Goodman

★

PTE. GUDMUNDUR V. GOODMAN

Born in Iceland Nov. 9, 1920. Enlisted in R.C.A.S.C. May 23, 1941. Released as medically unfit June 26, 1942.



Cpl. K. M. Goodman



Pte. G. V. Goodman

★

CPL. KRISTJAN M. GOODMAN

Born in Iceland May 29, 1921. Enlisted in Seaforth Regt., May 15, 1943. Served overseas in Holland and Italy returning July 4, 1945.

SONS OF MR. & MRS KRISTINN GOODMAN,
WINNIPEG, MAN.

★

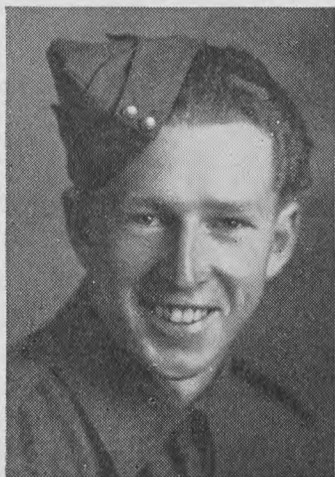
**S. E. Kjartanson****L.A.C. G. R. Kjartanson****John G. Kjartanson**

SIGURDUR EDWIN KJARTANSON—Born at Amaranth, Man., Oct. 30, 1917. Joined R.C.A.F. Nov. 27, 1941. Embarked overseas May 1943. Left England Aug. 1943 for India and completed a tour of operations. Returned to Canada July 30, 1945.

L.A.C. GUNNAR R. KJARTANSON—Born at Amaranth, Man., June 10, 1915. Joined R.C.A.F. June 16, 1942. Posted to Vancouver in Sept. and worked with No. 9 C.M.U.

JOHN G. KJARTANSON—Born at Amaranth, Man., Mar. 11, 1919. Joined Canadian Army Dec. 2, 1941. Went overseas April 1942. Served in England, Italy and Holland and with the army of occupation in Germany. Returned Oct. 1945.

**SONS OF MRS. MARGARET AND THE LATE BJÖRGVIN KJARTANSON,
AMARANTH, MAN.**



GNR. L. G. SIGURDSON—Born at Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 16, 1922. Enlisted fall of 1943. Trained at Vancouver and Calgary. Embarked overseas Jan. 1944. Returned Jan. 1946. Son of Jon & Margaret Sigurdson, Vancouver, B. C.



HARALDUR A. J. BENSON—Born at Gimli, Man., Oct. 29, 1944. Enlisted in R.C.N.V.R. Aug. 12, 1944. Trained at Cornwallis, Shelburn and Sydney, N. S. Son of Mr. & Mrs. Gisli Benson, Gimli, Man.



Capt. J. R. Vatnsdal



Cpl. T. A. Vatnsdal



1st Lieut. L. M. Vatnsdal

CAPT. JOHN RUSSELL VATNSDAL—Born at Duxby, Minn., Sept. 10, 1901. Commissioned in U.S. Air Corps Feb. 1943. Was instructor at Marfa, Texas, before embarking overseas June 1944. Served in England, France and Belgium with 91st Air Dept., Group 9, Air Force. Released Jan. 1946.

CPL. THOMAS ARTHUR VATNSDAL—Born at Wadena, Sask., May 21, 1916. Enlisted with 41st Div. 1940. Went overseas with U.S.A.S.O.S. Stationed in Australia, New Guinea and the Phillipines. Returned to U.S.A. April 1945. Disch. Sept. 1945.

1st LIEUT. LAURA MAY VATNSDAL—Born at Wadena, Sask., Sept. 14, 1910. Enlisted in Army Nurses Corps June, 1942. Went overseas in 1944 and served in England and France until Nov. 1945. Discharged Feb. 1946.

SONS AND DAUGHTER OF MRS. ANNA AND THE LATE THOMAS VATNSDAL, PORTLAND, ORE.

Twins



Harold and Theodore Johnson

A.B. HAROLD O. JOHNSON—Born at Gimli, Man., Sept. 25, 1920. Enlisted R.C.N.V.R. February 1942. Served one year on Pacific Convoy duty and two years with North Atlantic Overseas Escort. Discharged August 1945.

A.B. THEODORE M. JOHNSON—Born at Gimli, Man., Sept. 25, 1920. Enlisted in R.C.N.V.R. Feb. 1942. Served 1½ years with North Atlantic Escort and 1½ years on harbour craft at Halifax. Discharged August. 1945.

TWIN SONS OF MARTEIN J. AND THE LATE GUDRUN (BJARNASON) JOHNSON, GIMLI, MAN.



Pte. Leonard Jacobson



F.O. B. A. Jacobson

PTE. LEONARD JACOBSON—Born at Selkirk, Man., Aug. 3, 1926. Enlisted in the Canadian Army March 3, 1945. Stationed at Ft. Osborne, Ft. Garry and Camp Shilo. Discharged Apr. 24, 1946.

F.O. B. A. JACOBSON—Born at Selkirk, Man., May 24, 1922. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. Dec. 7, 1942. Trained at Brandon, Saskatoon, Virden and Gimli. Posted overseas April 1944. Returned July 17, 1945. Discharged September 1945.

SONS OF JACOB AND THORUN JACOBSON, GIMLI, MAN.



L.A.C. STEFAN H. THORSTEINSON—Born at Gimli, Man., Dec. 7, 1917. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. Jan. 6, 1942, training at Brandon. Stationed at Sea Island, B. C., Gimli, Souris and Brandon, Man. Discharged Oct. 15, 1945. Son of Mrs. Jonina Thordarson and the late Kristjan S. Thorsteinson, Gimli, Man.



C.M. 1/c FINNBOGI FRANKLIN HANNESSON—Born in Pembina, N. D., Nov. 21, 1912. Enlisted in U.S. Navy Feb. 3, 1942. Served in Washington State 9 mos. Transferred to Kodiak, Alaska, and served there 34 mos. Now discharged. Son of Mr. & Mrs. John Hannesson, Akra, N. D.



F.O. Lewis Harold Olson



Cpl. Stanley Olson

F.O. LEWIS HAROLD OLSON—Born at Langruth, Man., Sept. 15, 1918. Enlisted Nov. 1941. Trained at Saskatoon, Prince Albert and MacLeod. Was instructor at Prince Albert 17 months. Posted overseas July 1944.

CPL. STANLEY OLSON—Born at Langruth, Man., Sept. 11, 1916. Enlisted May, 1941. Took instrument makers course at St. Thomas. Embarked overseas Dec. 1941. Returned Dec. 1944.

SONS OF MR. & MRS. STEINI B. OLSON, WINNIPEG, MAN.



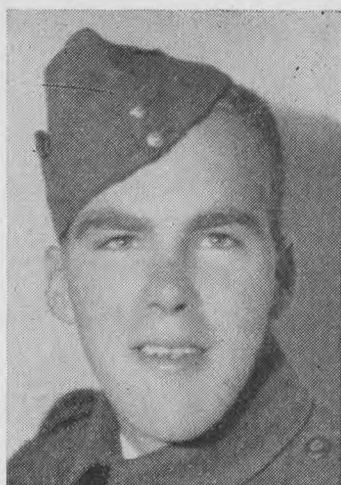
F.O. OSCAR SIGURDSON—Born Mar. 2, 1911 at Reiðarfjörð, Iceland. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. Nov. 3, 1939. Received his commission as aero-engineer Mar. 2, 1944. Transferred to R.C.A.F. reserve Jan. 22, 1946. Son of Mrs. Sigríður and the late Sigurbjorn Sigurdson, Wpg.



A.B. JAMES ROY LONG—Born at Winnipeg, Man., March 18, 1926. Joined the R.C.N.V.R. Aug. 28, 1944. Served aboard H.M.C.S. Nonsuch at Edmonton and H.M.C.S. Buckingham. Son of C. J. and Gudny Margaret (Kristjanson) Long, Edmonton, Alta.



Gnr. A. J. Robinson



Pte. H. R. Robinson

GNR. ALBERT JOHANNES ROBINSON—Born at Ashern, Man., Jan. 29, 1915. Enlisted with the 15th Field Regt. Jan. 6, 1941. Went overseas Aug. 4, 1941. Served in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. Discharged Nov. 1945.

PTE. HARALDUR ROY ROBINSON—Born at Nes, Man., July 25, 1921. Enlisted with the Lake Superior Regt. of the Canadian Army July 8, 1940. Trained at Ft. William and Camp Borden. Injured on rifle range and discharged April 1941.

**SONS OF MR. ALBERT & MRS. SIGURBJORG (MAGNUSSON) ROBINSON,
PINE FALLS, MAN.**



MARGARET GESTSON—Born Jan. 31, 1924, at Mountain, N. D. Enlisted in W.A.V.E.S. Aug. 1945. Trained at Hunters College, New York, and is now stationed in San Diego, Calif., U. S. A. — Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Rosman Gestson, Mountain, N. D., U. S. A.



CPL. JONA A. G. EGILSON—Born at Calder, Sask., Mar. 26, 1926. Enlisted Jan. 1945. Trained at Kitchener, Ont., and Edmonton, Alta. Stationed at London, Ont., until Apr. 1946. Discharged May 1946. Daughter of Mrs. Ella and the late Pall Egilson, Calder, Sask.



Cpl. J. W. Hallgrimson



L.A.C. Bjorn Hallgrimson

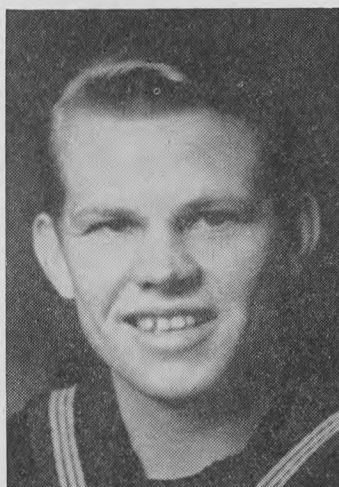
CPL. JOSEPH WALTER HALLGRIMSON—Born in the Bru district, Man., Oct. 18, 1915. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. in 1941. Trained at St. Thomas and Brandon before being posted overseas in 1944. Served in Germany and England. Now returned.

L.A.C. BJORN HALLGRIMSON—Born in the Bru district, Man., Nov. 8, 1916. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. 1942. Trained at Winnipeg, Toronto and Halifax. Served overseas, following the Normandy Beachhead to Germany. Is now discharged.

SONS OF MR. & MRS. TH. I. HALLGRIMSON, BRU, MAN.



JOHANN EYTHOR PETERSON—Born at Selkirk, Man., April 27, 1924. Enlisted in R.C.N.V.R. Oct. 1942. Trained at Winnipeg, St. Johns, Nfld., and Esquimalt, B. C. Served on minesweepers and corvettes. Discharged Oct. 1945. Son of Johann and Kristbjörg Peterson, Selkirk, Man.



ST. 1/c JOHANN THEODORE ARNASON—Born at Gimli, Man., Mar. 15, 1921. Enlisted in R.C.N.V.R. Aug. 5, 1942. Served at Eastern and Western ports and North Atlantic on convoy and minesweeping duty. Discharged Nov. 26, 1945. Son of Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Arnason, Gimli, Man.



Pte. E. G. Thordarson



Rfm. B. Thordarson



Pte. T. Thordarson

PTE. EIRIKUR G. THORDARSON—Born at Arnes, Man., Mar. 30, 1916. Enlisted May 27, 1943. Arrived in England Dec. 2, 1943. Served with No. 2, C.I.T.R. Returned Feb. 7, 1946.

RFM. BJORGVIN THORDARSON—Born at Arnes, Man., Aug. 30, 1918. Trained at Portage La Prairie and Shilo, Man. Stationed in British West Indies 6 mos., returning to Canada Aug. 1944. Arrived in England Jan. 1945. Returned Dec. 31, '45.

PTE. THORLEIFUR THORDARSON—Born at Arnes, Man., April 16, 1912. Enlisted in R.C.A.S.C. Dec. 10, 1943. Stationed at Camp Shilo, Man.

SONS OF HELGI & HERDIS THORDARSON, GIMLI, MAN.



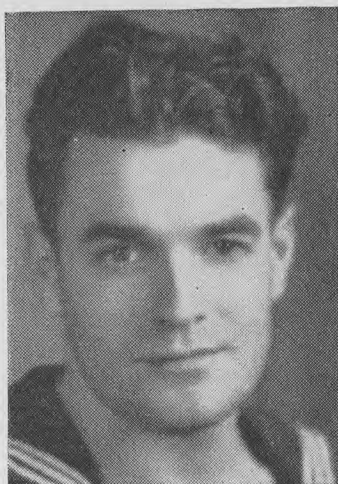
CPL. J. JONASSON—Born at Arnes, Man., Oct. 1, 1919. Enlisted Mar. 12, 1942. Served in Canada, United Kingdom and Continental Europe. Discharged Jan. 30, 1946. Son of Jon and Ragnheiður Jonasson, Arnes, Man.



F.O. EMIL A GILLIES—Born in Winnipeg, Aug. 28, 1921. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. July 1942. Graduated from No. 5 A.O.S., Winnipeg, June 1943. Arrived overseas July 1943. Son of Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Gillies, Winnipeg, Man.



Spr. Joe Goodmanson



A.B. T. F. Goodmanson

SPR. JOE GOODMANSON—Born at Libau, Man., June 18, 1917. Enlisted in R.C.E. Dec. 9, 1941. After training at Winnipeg and Dundurn, was posted overseas May 13, 1942. Was officially reported killed in action at Dunkirk, Sept. 12, 1944.

A.B. THORSTEIN FREDERICK GOODMANSON—Born at Selkirk, Man., April 18, 1922. Enlisted in R.C.N.V.R. Mar. 27, 1942. Trained in Winnipeg, Esquimalt, Cornwallis. Served aboard H.M.C.S. Calgary and also on shore duty.

SONS OF GRIMUR & GUDRUN (MAGNUSSEN) GOODMANSON, SELKIRK, MAN.

**SIGMN. BJARNI THOMAS BJARNASON--**

Born Mar. 24, 1925 at Winnipeg, Man. Joined the Can. Army Jan. 1944, went overseas Sept. 1944. Met with an accident in England Jan. 12, 1945. Returned Aug. 1945 on Lady Nelson as a pleurisy patient and is now at St. Boniface San. Discharged Sept. 1945. Son of Gudmundur & Halldora Bjarnason, Wpg.

**GNR. JOSEPH N. STEVENS**—Born at

Gimli, Man., Nov. 30, 1925. Enlisted Aug. 1943 in Can. Army University Course. Joined R.C.A. May 1944. Went overseas 1944. Was with occupation force in Holland and Germany until Jan. 1946. Now at Khaki University, Leavesden, England. Son of Norman K. and Margaret H. Stevens, Gimli, Man.



P.O. B. J. William Stevens



Sgt. Kristin Franklin Stevens

PETTY OFFICER B. J. WILLIAM STEVENS—Born at Gimli, Man., March 3, 1913. Enlisted in R.C.N.V.R. Aug. 23, 1942. Was at sea, based at Esquimalt, Halifax, Londonderry, Ireland and Portsmouth, England. Discharged Oct. 1945.

SGT. KRISTIN FRANKLIN STEVENS—Born at Gimli Man., Nov. 13, 1919. Enlisted in Infantry Apr. 1941. Trained at Portage La Prairie and Winnipeg. Later with Pictou Highlanders of Nova Scotia in Newfoundland and Bermuda. Returned to Canada April 1946.

SONS OF MR. & MRS. JOHN S. STEVENS, GIMLI, MAN.



ENS. BJARNI RICHARD HALLDORSON—Born at Mountain, N. D., Jan. 18, 1922. Enlisted in U. S. Naval Reserve, Sept. 17, 1942. Trained at Athens, Ga. Graduated as pilot at Pensacola, Fla. Served 11 mos. overseas with Utility 7. Released Nov. 29, 1945. Son of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Halldorson, Mountain, N. D.

T/SGT. SIGURJON J. BERNDSON—Born at Crystal, N. D., Mar. 31, 1909. Entered service Sept. 25, 1942. Trained at Fort Monmouth, N. J. Posted to So. Pacific, Mar. 1943. Served as Cryptographic Tech. in Signal section of the 6th army headquarters. Son of Mr. & Mrs. Fritz Berndson, Los Angeles, Calif.

FATHER AND SON



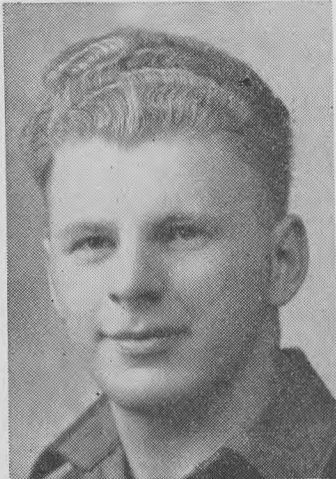
W/O Hjaldur Oskar Olson



F.O. H. Donald Olson

W.O. HJALDUR OSKAR OLSON—Born in Iceland, June 10, 1898. Enlisted in World War I in the Flying Corps 1918. Joined the R.C.A.F. in 1940. Discharged 1945. Son of Mrs. Thora and the late Gudmundur Olson, Winnipeg, Man.

F.O. H. DONALD OLSON—Born in Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 5, 1923. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. Aug. 13, 1942. Trained at Edmonton, Summerside, P.E.I., before embarking overseas Jan. 1944. Was on coastal command with the Demon Squadron. Discharged Sept. 1945. Son of Hjaldur Oskar and the late Helen Olson.



ELFI SNYDAL—Born May 8, 1926 at Winnipeg, Man. Joined the army 1944. Has been guarding German prisoners and will likely act as escort when prisoners are returned. Son of Mr. & Mrs. Jack Snydal, Brandon, Man.



P.O. J. E. JOHNSON—Born at Gimli, Man., Feb. 14, 1924. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. Apr. 1943. Trained at Brandon, Saskatoon, Virden and Gimli. Graduated as pilot officer Nov. 1944. Son of Mr. & Mrs. Gunnar J. Johnson, Gimli, Man.

In Memoriam



F.L. WILLIAM THOMAS GUDLAUGUR ROBINSON

Born at Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 28, 1919. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. Medical Corps, June 4, 1941. Remustered to air crew June 6, 1942, and was commissioned Mar. 5, 1943. Was loaned as patrol pilot to R.A.F. 517 Sqdn., and posted overseas Sept. 1943. On Feb. 24, 1944 on the 11th trip of operations their damaged plane crashed. F.L. Robinson is buried in Chester Cemetery, Cheshire, England. Son of Mr. Albert & Mrs. Sigurbjorg (Magnusson) Robinson, Pine Falls, Man.

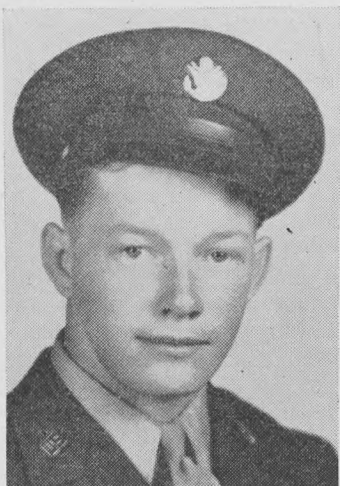


F.L. W. T. G. Robinson



P.F.C. JOHN HERBERT EINARSON

Born at Milton, N. D., Feb. 1, 1924. Entered the service Dec. 16, 1943, and was trained at Fort Ord, Calif. Went overseas July 1944 and was with the 34th Infantry Batt. of the 24th Division at New Guinea. He took part in the Leyte invasion and later on Luzon, where he met his death on Feb. 4, 1945. Son of Mrs. Kristin Bjornson & the late Grimur A. Einarson, Gardar, N. D.



P.F.C. J. H. Einarson



F.O. K. G. JOHNSON (FREEMAN)

Born at Gimli, Man., Dec. 27, 1923. Enlisted in R.C.A.F. Jan. 20, 1943. Trained at Regina, Dafoe and Winnipeg. Graduated Apr. 1944. Embarked for India Nov. 6, 1944. Was reported missing, believed killed Feb. 9, 1945. Presumed dead Mar. 25, 1946. Son of Mr. & Mrs. Valdimar Johnson, Gimli, Man.



F.O. K. G. Johnson (Freeman)

In The News

Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson has been appointed professor of surgery in the faculty of medicine of the University of Manitoba, succeeding Dr. Oliver Waugh. Dr. Waugh's predecessor was Dr. B. J. Brandson.

Dr. Thorlakson is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, also a Fellow of the American Surgical Assn. For seven years he has been a member of the associate committee on medical research of the National Research Council.

He was one of the founders of the Manitoba Institute for Advancement of Medical Education and Research. He has taken a leading part in the organization of the Manitoba Medical Centre and is now chairman of its Board of Directors.

Dr. Thorlakson, who has been for a number of years a member of the surgical staff of the Winnipeg General Hospital has been further honored by being appointed Chief Surgeon of that large institution.

★

Mr. Sig. Sigmundson, who left Winnipeg in 1940 to take a position as Regional Director of Transit Control, with the British Columbia Electric Railway Co., has received another promotion. Two years ago he was appointed Transport Assistant and has now been given the important post of Operations Manager for the B.C.E.R. This position entails the administration of Tramways, especially in the suburban areas.

Before leaving Winnipeg, Sig Sigmundson was one of the most active members of the Icelandic Canadian Club.

★

Mrs. E. A. Isfeld, of Winnipeg, was appointed to the executive of the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers Association, at the Annual Convention held in Toronto this summer. For the last two years Mrs. Isfeld has been the president of the Winnipeg branch of the Manitoba Music Teachers Association.

Mr. J. P. Sigvaldason, who before the war was acting administrative officer of the department of education for Manitoba, has resigned his post to become assistant secretary at Canada House, London, in the department of external affairs, it was learned recently. His appointment to the department of external affairs is the result of Civil Service competitions conducted by the department of external affairs across the Dominion.

★

The new Kaiser-Frazer Corporation needed a distribution center for Manitoba and western Ontario. From among the scores of applications for the agency the company selected that of Mr. Ingimundur Einarsson of Winnipeg, who is well known among us for his business ability. Together with his son, Daniel J. Einarsson, he has opened offices and showrooms called the M. Einarsson Motors Ltd. on River Ave.

★

At the finals of the Oratory Competition of the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture and Co-operation (M.F.A.C.) held in Winnipeg, the winners were two young ladies from Geysir, Man., who have been featured in our University news. They are Vordis Fridfinnson, who won the U.G.G. Trophy, and Borga Sigurdson, a similar trophy, and an additional cash prize of \$20.00.

★

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Patterson and two small daughters returned this summer from Johannesburg, South Africa, where Mr. Patterson has been general manager of Coca Cola company of South Africa for the last eight years. After spending some time with Mrs. Patterson's parent's, Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Hallson, Winnipeg, they left for New York, where Mr. Patterson will resume his position with the Coca-Cola company.

The King of Denmark has bestowed on Dr. Richard Beck the King Christian X's Medal of Liberation, in recognition of his work on behalf of Denmark during the war years.

★

Seven-year-old Noma Sigrun Fulton, a beautiful little blonde girl of Icelandic descent, has been selected to take a part in the forthcoming David O. Selznick production, "Duel in the Sun." Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Fulton, were both educated in Winnipeg, at Jon Bjarnason academy. Mrs. Fulton is the former Hozel Burton. Noma's maternal grandmother was Sigurlaug (Jónsdóttir) Búrton.

★

Halldor M. Swan, of Winnipeg, has been made honorary life president of the Winnipeg Archery Club. Mr. Swan is keenly interested in sports, and is among the leaders here in the sport of archery. For some years he taught this interesting art to an enthusiastic group of Icelandic Canadian Club members.

Two former Winnipeggers came from Iceland this summer, accompanied by their husbands, to visit friends and relatives. They are Mrs. Ragnar Olafsson and Mrs. Johannes (Bill) Snorrason, both of Reykjavík, Iceland.

Mrs. Olafsson was before her marriage in 1940 Miss Kristin Johnson, daughter of the late Hinrik Johnson and his wife, Oddny, of Winnipeg. Ragnar Olafsson is counsel to the Supreme Court of Iceland.

Mrs. Alice Snorrason was formerly of Riverton, Man., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Baldwinson. Mr. Snorrason studied aviation in Winnipeg and the United States.

★

Snjolaug and Agnes Sigurdson have returned home to spend a short holiday with their families before resuming their studies in New York. Agnes has been studying with Olga Samaroff, wife of Leopold Stokowski. Agnes will make her debut at New York's Town Hall next spring. Snjolaug has for a coach Ernest Hutcheson, former president of Juilliard Institute of Music.

News From Lundar, Manitoba

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Jón Lindal was celebrated by 500 people in the Town Hall of Lundar, June 14th last. This event had an historical significance inasmuch as this couple immediately after their marriage at Winnipeg, in 1895, settled on a farm near Lundar where they have lived ever since.

The resourcefulness and energy of this young couple were at once apparent. Noting the plight of the pioneers who had to journey 70 miles to Winnipeg on ox-drawn wagons for all their provisions, carrying in exchange the meagre produce from their farms, Mr. Lindal set up on his own farm a small store as soon as he got there in 1895. This he operated until 1914.

In addition to carving out of the

swamp and wild bush a comfortable living for themselves and raising 16 healthy and forward looking youngsters, both Jón and Soffía Lindal have taken an active part in the social and cultural life of the community these 50 years.

Another unique aspect of this gathering was the fact that all the 16 children, all but two of whom are married and scattered all over this continent, were present to celebrate this happy occasion with their parents and to join in the tribute paid to them by friends, some of whom had been their co-workers during fifty years of eventful living.

★

The passing of the aged viking Hinrik Johnson, who died in Winnipeg in July,

this year, marks another milestone in the pioneer history of Lunda.

Hinrik Johnson, born on a farm in the Westfjords, Iceland, in 1855, was an adventurous young man. He loved the sea, and studied to be a ship's officer, but gave it up when a tragic accident occasioned the loss of his left hand. Nevertheless, he followed the sea for years, visiting many lands and learning much.

He came to Canada in 1886, and two years later was followed by his bride-to-be. She was Oddny Asgeirsdóttir from Lunda in Borgarfjord. They were married in 1888 and started farming in a new Icelandic settlement 70 miles north of Winnipeg. Even though their adventuresome and progressive spirit soon led them to other fields, they undeniably left their mark on the place which was their first Canadian home; for Hinrik became the first postmaster there and they named it Lunda in commemoration of Oddny's childhood home in Iceland.

In a few years Hinrik and Oddny moved to Ebor in the western part of Manitoba where, despite his handicap, they farmed on a large scale for 40 years. There they brought up their ten children, who are all living, in various parts of Canada and the States, and one in Iceland.

In 1937 they retired, moving to Virden and later to Winnipeg. Two daughters live with their mother at 784 Bannatyne Ave., Winnipeg.

★

Lunda athletes continue to place at

the front in Manitoba sports. At the Manitoba championship meet held at Sargent Park, the third week of August, Sveinn Sigfusson, formerly of Lunda and now resident in Winnipeg, placed first in the hammer throw.

★

To Our Readers

Send us news of general interest to be published in the Icelandic Canadian.

Scholarship Winner



Walter Kristjanson, son of Mr. & Mrs. Otto Kristjanson of Geraldton, Ont. Won the Boak scholarship in third year Medicine at Queen's University, for excellent work in anatomy.

The Icelandic Canadian

Published Quarterly by the Icelandic Canadian Club
of Winnipeg, Man.

Subscription Rates for North America: One year \$1.00 — Two
years \$1.75 — Three years \$2.25 — Payable in advance.

BACK NUMBERS AVAILABLE.

For subscriptions write to:

H. F. Danielson, 869 Garfield St., Winnipeg.

Björnsson's Book Store, 702 Sargent Ave., Winnipeg.

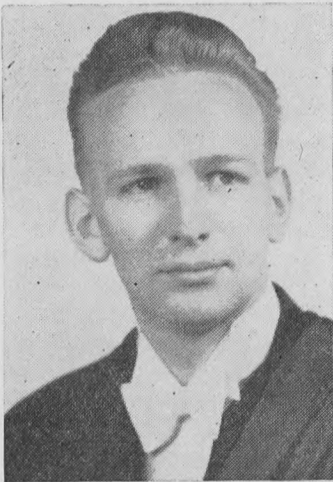
July Graduates In Medicine

From the University of Manitoba



Sveinbjorn Stefan Bjornson, son of Dr. and Mrs. Svein Bjornson of Ashern, Man. Dr. Bjornson will practice with his father at Ashern, for the present.

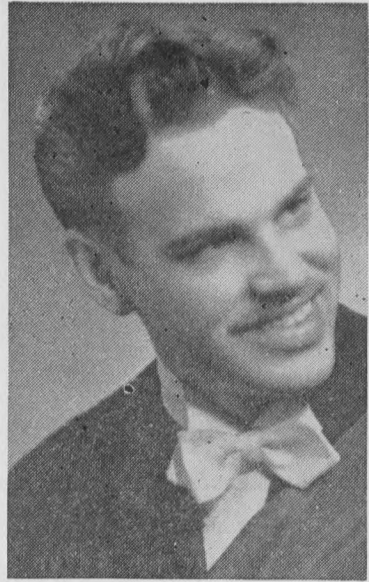
★



Thomas John Speakman, graduated with highest marks in Medicine. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Speakman

of Field, B. C. His mother was formerly Rebekka Johnson, daughter of Gudm. and Katrin Johnson of Winnipeg.

★



Sveinn Halldor Octavius Eggertson, son of Mr. & Mrs. A. G. Eggertson, of Winnipeg. Dr. Eggertson took a position at the hospital at Steinbach, Man., but expects to go to London, England, this fall for further study.

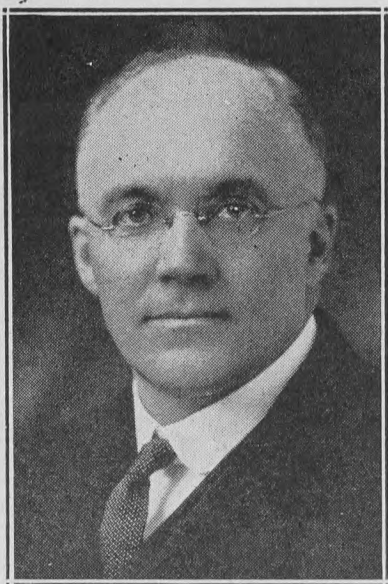
Awards

Lillian Goodman, was awarded the Governor General's Medal for 1945. — Distinguished in her scholastic career, she was a member of the Breezes Staff at the Daniel McIntyre Collegiate, and also outstanding in sports, and a member of the Opera Cast, and choir. This year she is Vice-President of the School Council. She is the daughter of Barney Goodman, and the late Mrs. Goodman of Winnipeg.

★

John Hafliidson, Winnipeg, co-winner of the Grade 11 Merit Award at United College for 1945-46.

Judge Gudmundur Grimson



JUDGE GUDMUNDUR GRIMSON

I find it quite impossible to do justice to the subject of this sketch within the limitations of space which are necessarily imposed on me. His life has been so rich and varied in experience and so full of achievement that a mere list of the principal events of his life would constitute a lengthy record.

Gudmundur Grimson was born in the district of Borgarfjörður, Iceland, on November 20th, 1878, being the youngest in a family of thirteen children. His father was Steingrímur Grímsson and his mother was Guðrún Jónsdóttir. On July 14th, 1882, his father, with most of his family, left Iceland for the United States. They landed at Boston, Massachusetts, on August 2nd, and arrived at Gardar, North Dakota, on August 15th. Gudmundur Grimson has resided in North Dakota ever since.

The life of Gudmundur Grimson is a record of hard work and of handicaps and obstacles overcome. The success which he has achieved is not the result of political accident or other fortuitous

circumstances. It has been earned by his own efforts and by his qualities of heart and mind.

In the summer of 1886 his father homesteaded in eastern Cavalier County, North Dakota, about nine miles west of the Icelandic settlement in Pembina County. The following year the railroad was built within four miles of his homestead and the town of Milton was started. In 1887 young Grimson attended his first school. He later attended the public schools at Milton, and this entailed walking four miles each morning and afternoon. In the spring of 1895 he received his common school diploma from Milton, and the same year he obtained a third grade teacher's certificate. This entitled him to teach; but, as he was then only sixteen years of age, he experienced considerable difficulty in convincing any school board that he was sufficiently mature to be qualified to take charge of a school. He, however, succeeded and for the next four years he was a school teacher.

In the fall of 1898 he enrolled in the preparatory department at the University of North Dakota. His funds were limited, and to make them last he joined Vilhjálmur Stefánsson and John G. Johnson in renting a little board shanty where they "bached." In this way they lived for about one dollar and sixty cents a week.

At the end of his first year in the University he received employment as janitor at Budge Hall, one of the boys' dormitories. At the beginning of his third year he was made mail carrier. Then he was appointed postmaster at the University, which maintained a government post office. This position he held for four years. In that connection he and Fred J. Traynor conducted the University Book Store. He derived sufficient revenue from these two positions to pay all his University expenses.

In fact, he entered the University with \$150.00, and when he was graduated seven years later he had a cash surplus of \$750.00, all earned by his own efforts.

In the spring of 1904 he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Dakota. He then took post graduate work and received the degree of Master of Arts from the University in the spring of 1905. His Master's thesis was on Prohibition. His choice of subject is not without significance, for throughout his life he has been a total abstainer from intoxicants and from tobacco in any form.

He was awarded a fellowship in Economics at the University of Chicago, and attended there in the summer and fall of 1905 and the winter of 1906, studying Economics and Law. He returned for the spring term, 1906, at the University of North Dakota Law School and was graduated from there in June, 1906, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. At the same time he was admitted to the Bar in the State of North Dakota.

During his University career he took a very prominent part in numerous extracurricular activities. He was one of the ablest debaters of his day in the University. In 1900 he won the Thomas medal for improvement in debate, being the first recipient thereof.

On September 5th, 1906, he married Miss Ina Viola Sanford, who is of Scotch-English descent. She was graduated in 1904 from the Normal Department of the University of North Dakota.

They have two sons, Keith Sanford Grimson, born in 1910, and Lynn Gudmundur Grimson, born in 1912. Keith is a doctor. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and is Assistant Professor of Surgery in Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Lynn is a lawyer and is engaged in the practice of law at Grafton, North Dakota.

On October 1st, 1906, Gudmundur Grimson opened a law office in the town of Munich, North Dakota. At that

time, as he himself has succinctly put it: "All I had in the world was a wife, \$150.00 cash, given to us by my father as a wedding present, and a license to practise law." In a small town like Munich there was little law business and the returns were pitifully small. His law business left him with considerable spare time on his hands, so in the summer of 1908 he bought the Munich Herald, a weekly newspaper. This he managed and edited for over three years with conspicuous success.

In November, 1910, he was elected to the office of State's Attorney of Cavalier County. He assumed that office on January 1st, 1911, and on that date he moved to Langdon, the county seat. He was re-elected at each succeeding election until 1924. In the 1924 election he was not a candidate. During his incumbency of the office of State's Attorney he established a reputation for fearless, impartial, and efficient law enforcement.

In 1922 he was retained to investigate the circumstances surrounding the death in Florida of a young boy from Munich named Martin Tabert. — Briefly, the story was that Tabert had been arrested for stealing a ride on a train, sentenced to pay a fine of \$25.00 and, in default of payment, to three months imprisonment. At that time the laws of Florida permitted a system of peonage known as the convict lease system. Tabert was leased to a lumber company, forced to work while sick, and, when unable to work because of sickness, was beaten so savagely that he died from the effects. He had been the victim of a barbarous penal system, coupled with a corrupt local administration. When some of the main facts were brought to light the case aroused so much interest and indignation that a fund of \$4,000.00 was subscribed for the purpose of having the facts fully investigated. The case aroused nation wide interest and brought Mr. Grimson, until then a little known country town lawyer, into national prominence. He enlisted the

support of the New York World, the Hearst papers, the Associated Press, the North Dakota Legislature, and the general public. His exposures, the evidence which he gathered, and the pressure of public opinion which he created caused the Florida Legislature to abolish the convict lease system and to pass more humane penal laws. They also resulted in the ouster from office of the corrupt local officials concerned and the criminal prosecution of those responsible for young Tabert's death. The lumber company paid the parents of young Tabert the sum of \$20,000.00 by way of damages. Out of this amount the subscribers to the \$4,000.00 fund were reimbursed, all the expenses of the investigation were paid, and a very substantial balance remained for the parents. The Tabert case ranks among the most celebrated cases in the judicial annals of the United States. It established Mr. Grimson's reputation professionally in a nation wide way, and it brought him the enduring satisfaction which comes from having been found equal to a seemingly impossible task and from having been instrumental in ending a system which had caused untold misery and suffering, and, by ending that system, saving future unfortunates from a fate similar to that which resulted in young Tabert's death.

On December 1st, 1926, Mr. Grimson was appointed by Governor A. G. Sorlie Judge of the District Court, Second Judicial District, to succeed Judge A. G. Burr, of Rugby, who on that date was elevated to the Supreme Court. He was re-elected in 1928 and again in 1932, 1936, and 1942, the last three times without opposition.

In view of the differences in terminology between Canada and the United States I should explain that the District Court in North Dakota is a superior

court of general civil and criminal jurisdiction, corresponding to the Court of King's Bench in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Judge Grimson is well equipped for his judicial work by temperament and learning. In addition to the work in his own district he has been called in to preside at trials in forty of the fifty-three counties in the State. He has also been called to sit in the Supreme Court twenty-one times, and in fourteen of these cases he wrote the opinion of the Court, in twelve of which the judgment was unanimous. Space does not permit of an appreciation of his judicial work here beyond saying that his reputation for ability, fairness, and impartiality is firmly established, and that no other judge in North Dakota is held in higher regard than he by his brethren on the Bench, the legal profession, and the general public.

In 1930 he was the official representative of the State of North Dakota at the Millennial celebration in Iceland. On that occasion the University of Iceland conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. He was similarly honored by the University of North Dakota in 1939.

In 1939 he was awarded the highest degree of the Order of the Falcon by the Government of Iceland.

Judge Grimson has a genius for attracting friends and is himself a sincere and loyal friend. He is unbowed by early difficulties and hardships and is unspoiled by success. While he is generally regarded as one of the most distinguished graduates of the University of North Dakota and among the foremost citizens of his State, to his intimate friends he is, and always will be, affectionately known as plain "Mundi" Grimson.

HJALMAR A. BERGMAN

Frank Thorolfson



FRANK THOROLFSON

The jovial adjudicator summed up with these words, "It was astounding and yet most gratifying to me that this big, husky boy should perform with such unconscious grace, and play when called upon, with such a delightful delicacy of touch and true refinement of interpretation."

In spite of having just won top honors in his class, Frank was not happy about this reference to his personal appearance. Yes, he was big for his age; his clothes were inexpensive, somewhat worn, but bore the unmistakable signs of someone's loving care; the thick new half-soles of his well-shined shoes and the mop of brown hair cresting above his broad brow added a good inch to his height; he felt a bit awkward and ill at ease among this bevy of dainty damsels comprising most of the class.

Today, tall, broad-shouldered and distinguished looking, Frank Thorolfson handles his choirs and orchestras with a quiet self-assurance yet always with that charming sensitiveness of feeling

that characterized his playing as a boy. His musicians seldom fail to respond to the technical skill and emotional drive so well balanced in his work as a conductor.

Frank is the son of Halldor Thorolfson, well known among us as a singer and conductor of church choirs and the Winnipeg Icelandic Choral society, and his wife Friðrikka (Friðrikson). Already at the age of thirty-two, he has behind him an interesting career of musical achievements. Winner of many scholarships he was fortunate enough to win the Macdonald musical scholarship in 1931, which enabled him to study, for a year at McGill University. There he specialized in conducting (symphonic, choral and orchestral). These studies he pursued further at the Chautaugua summer school in New York.

He has held appointments as organist and choir master of Riverview United, Crescent-Fort Rouge, and First Lutheran churches, Winnipeg.

Winnipeg has become a musically conscious city. This is due in a large measure to the efforts of local musicians who have had the vision to branch out and build up better facilities for musical enjoyment. Frank Thorolfson soon saw the need for a chamber orchestra in Winnipeg. This he was successful in organizing in 1937. Among the artistic achievements of this young conductor and his new orchestra were the American premieres of some of the works of the great masters, written for this medium, among them the Bach Cantata, Number 7, which had only recently been published. This performance won the highest praise of the critics.

Following are a few excerpts from some of the press notices on Mr. Thoroldson's work as a conductor:

..... The conductor is to be envied and praised for his enterprise in forming the orchestra and accomplishing so much.—(Winnipeg Free Press).

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA SCORES TRIUMPH (head line). — Exceptional qualities of definiteness, patience and enthusiasm are needed in a conductor . . . and Frank Thorolfson seems to have them. He and the Winnipeg Chamber Orchestra are doing remarkable work. . . . It was quite plain that the audience was gripped at this concert throughout the second part of the program, and in Frank Bridge's poignant "Lament" which was done so feelingly and tastefully. Atmospheric music . . . is a strong point with the conductor. . . . L. S. (Winnipeg Free Press).

It would be safe to say that a finer concert has never been heard in Winnipeg than the one offered Wednesday evening by the Winnipeg Chamber Orchestra under the baton of Frank Thorolfson. Every number the orchestra presented showed the most intensive training, the highest degree of sensitivity to phrase and line, a freshness, a spontaneity, and an impeccable sense of style, all bearing witness to the musicianship and general competency of its conductor, Mr. Thorolfson.

"Congratulate the orchestra!" he said after his superb program. "I couldn't do a thing without them!" Very true . . . but to say this is not to detract from Mr. Thorolfson's achievement. He has what it takes, beyond a doubt. He has worked against great odds, and encountered almost insurmountable obstacles. . . . He is a Winnipeg musician who should attain national recognition. . . . What a program . . . what an orchestra . . . what a conductor!—(Manitoban).

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PRESENTATION WINS OVATION (head line). — The Winnipeg Chamber Orchestra and its conductor, Frank Thorolfson, received an ovation Wednesday evening at the Civic Auditorium concert hall after they had finished their remarkable program. Their first two numbers were a symphony (E flat, Op. 9 No. 2) by John Christian Bach, and a church Cantata

(No. 7) by John Sebastian Bach. They did a valuable service in presenting this out-of-the-way music . . . the mixed chorus . . . who sang the beautiful chorale "The Eye Alone Doth Water See", was one of the pleasantest surprises imaginable, in the lovely roundness of tone and its expressive use. Let this chorus sing often . . . the orchestra played three encores in response to vehement applause.—L.S.
—(Winnipeg Free Press).

In 1939 Mr. Thorolfson married Irene Diehl, a talented young violinist and together they have given many recitals, sponsored by various musical organizations here. They have a joint studio for teaching the piano and violin. For some years, up until he temporarily gave up his career to go on active service with the Royal Canadian Artillery, Mr. Thorolfson was conductor of the University of Manitoba Symphony orchestra.

To a man of Frank's keen sensibilities, the years on active service could not be lost, for though he had laid away his music and put his hands to unaccustomed tasks, he made it a point wherever he went to become better acquainted with the music and culture of that country. Thus he was able to garner many gems and add to his rich store of musical memories. In Rome, in Ghent, in London he heard superb performances of several operas and symphonies. "The people", he says, "in times of crisis seem to cling desperately to the things they hold most precious, and musical activities and attendance at performances was at peak form during these last war years while I was in Italy, Holland, and England."

Since his return from overseas in October, 1945, Mr. Thorolfson has been organist and choir master of Greenwood United Church, — "and very busy trying to become a musician again," says Frank, with a thoughtful look into the future. He plans to leave soon to study for his Bachelor of Music degree in the United States.—H. D.

Hollinsworth's

*- the fashion mecca for women
who are style conscious,
budget wise.*

For~

Quality Hardware



VISIT

Ashdown's
HARDWARE

Main St. at Bannatyne Ave.

WINNIPEG



Shoes to support
your body weight
evenly

shop at

Macdonald
Shoe Store Ltd.

492-4 MAIN ST.

"You Are As Young As Your Feet"

John S. Brooks Limited

DUNNVILLE, ONTARIO

Specialists in the Manufacture of High Grade **LINEN GILL NETTING**

Genuine SEA ISLAND COTTON Gill Netting

On the Latest Improved Gill Net Machines Built in Canada

In Our Own Machine Shop

Save Food!
Save Lives!

Help Feed The Hungry!

This space donated by

THE RIEDLE BREWERY LTD.
WINNIPEG

Phone 24 126 Sargent at Agnes

★

**H. B. SCOTT
BAKERY**

Our Products are Unequalled

★

**WEDDING & BIRTHDAY
CAKE SPECIALISTS**

★

CITY WIDE DELIVERY

Kings Ltd.

★

Smart Apparel for
Men and Women
of discretion



**THE FRIENDLY STORE
396 PORTAGE AVE.
WINNIPEG**

Crescent Creamery

Company Limited



Dealers in "Quality Guarded"
Dairy Products for over
40 years.

MILK — CREAM — BUTTER
ICE CREAM

PHONE 37 101

ALWAYS ask your
Grocer for

"BUTTER-NUT BREAD"

Rich as Butter — Sweet as a Nut



CANADA BREAD

CO. LTD.

PHONE 37 144

Established 1897

S. Thorvaldson, M.B.E., President
L. A. Sigurdson, M.D., Sec.-Treas.

SIGURDSSON THORVALDSON — CO. LTD. —

GENERAL MERCHANTS

Riverton—Hnausa—Arborg

Lumber Yards at Riverton & Arborg

Phones: 1 55/33 1

Manitoba

Biggar Bros. Ltd.

Fuel — Cartage



LONG DISTANCE HAULING



425 Gertrude Ave. Phone 42 844

T H E

VIKING PRESS

Limited

PRINTERS & PUBLISHERS

853 Sargent Ave.

Phone 24 185

Be Satisfied

Deal at the

HARMAN'S DRUG STORES

PORTAGE & SHERBROOK
SARGENT & TORONTO



Phone: 34 561
23 455

DR. L. A. SIGURDSON

116 MEDICAL ARTS BLDG.



Office Ph. 94 762

Res. Ph. 72 409

DR. A. V. JOHNSON**DENTIST**

506 SOMERSET BLDG.

Phone 97 932

Res. Phone 202 398

J. J. SWANSON LTD.* Rentals * Real Estate *
Insurance * Loans

308 AVENUE BLDG.

**ANDREWS, ANDREWS,
THORVALDSON &
EGGERTSON****Attorneys**

Bank of Nova Scotia Bldg.

Portage at Garry St.

Phone 98 291

For
Number One Quality**Milk
Cream
and
Butter**

PHONE 201 101

MODERN DAIRIES LTD.*"Always Good"*For Delivery
Telephone-**87 647
CITY DAIRY CO.****Viking Fisheries**
Ltd.**Wholesale Fish Dealers****301 Great West Permanent Bldg.
Winnipeg, Man.**

Phone 96 306-7

A. S. Bardal**Funeral Service**

PHONES: 27324—26 444

Bardal Block

843 Sherbrook St.

Winnipeg

SERVING CANADIANS FOR 77 YEARS

The New York Life Insurance Company in Canada is nearly as old as Confederation. It has made important contributions to the progress of the Dominion.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

A MUTUAL COMPANY • SERVING CANADIANS SINCE 1868
CANADIAN DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, 320 BAY STREET, TORONTO
Winnipeg Branch Office: Curry Building, 233 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Man.
A. T. FORSYTHE, Manager

NO NEED TO ECONOMIZE!

While the cost of living has steadily increased, the cost of electrical service has remained at its exceptionally low level.

There's no need to economize on electricity. It's still one of the cheapest services your money can buy!

•

CITY HYDRO

DR. A. BLONDAL

602 MEDICAL ARTS BLDG.

★

Phone 93 996

CENTRAL DAIRIES LIMITED

121 SALTER ST.

WINNIPEG Phone 57 237

WHERE CREAM SHIPPERS
RECEIVE PROMPT SERVICE
AND HIGHEST POSSIBLE
RETURNS

Subscribe to
THE
ICELANDIC CANADIAN

To Our Readers

READERS are invited to send in news of people of Icelandic extraction, especially our soldiers overseas. Original articles and poems as well as translations from the Icelandic would be appreciated. Letters to the Editors may be published. You are invited to let us know what you think of our publication.

THE EDITORS

30¢ a DOZ.

FOR

EMPTY BEER BOTTLES

**YOUR EMPTY BEER BOTTLES
WILL BE PICKED UP BY
TRUCK AND REDEEMED AT
30 CENTS PER DOZEN IF YOU
WILL TELEPHONE DIRECT
TO THE BREWERY.**

THE DREWRY'S LIMITED